THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Air taxi operators had some problems relating to allotment of counter space, hangar space, etc., at various airports, particularly at Bombay and Delhi airports. The operators also had problems relating to availability of watch hours at smaller airports. Many of the problems have been sorted out through consultations from time to time between air taxi operators and the concerned agencies. Mutual consultations are held as and when necessary.

Development of tourism during Tourism year

2702. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 1991 was declared by Government of India as the Tourism year;

(b) if so, what efforts were made by different agencies of Government including I.T.D.C. to develop more tourists infrastructure in the country during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 and whether there has been any positive effect on the tourism industry due to the same; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any effort was made to run I.T.D.C. activities in a systematic manner during the above-said period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Development of tourism infrastructure is a continuous process and is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92, Central financial, assistance, apart from the augmentation of tourism infrastructure was also extended to some of the States and to the ITDC for upgradation of accommodation, transport and communication facilities etc.

The achievement of the tourism industry is reflected in the growth of 20.6 recorded in tourists arrivals during the first six months of the current year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Modernisation of airports

2703. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals for the modernisation of airports and related facilities in our country and the money allocated with details thereof;

(b) whether there is any proposal for the development of Trivandrum Airport as an airport of International standard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Modernisation of airports and related facilities in the country is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon protected requirements of user airlines and availability of resources, land etc.

(b) and (c) Trivandrum is an international airport already. The International Airports Authority of India has formulated long term development and modernisation plans for the airport. The security lounge and domestic departure have been airconditioned.

Airconditioning the arrival area is expected by December, 1993. Provision has also been made for a New Terminal Complex, besides other works such as cargo complex, security fencing roads, improvement of runways, taxiways apron etc.

Expenditure incurred on ITDC executives

2704. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the perks/facilities being given to executives of ITDC during 1970-71, 1975-76 1980-81;